M-12-42-15
Thomas and Elbert Johnson Houses (Sites)
Big Woods Community
Private

1875-1895

A typical one and a half story log dwelling stood on this site as the home of a black landowning family in the last quarter of the 19th century. Near to it stood the larger frame house of their son, whose house was more in keeping with house styles and methods of construction of the turn of the century.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

XSITE OBJECT PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE ZYES: RESTRICTED GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC GOVERNMENT GOVERN					
ANO/OR COMMON THE BIDGET and Homas Southson Family Houses (Sites) ANO/OR COMMON STREET & NUMBER West side of Route 109 CITY.TOWN Beallsville ** VICINITY OF Big Woods 8 COUNTY MONTGOMERY 3 CLASSIFICATION CASTGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS PRESENT USE DISTRICT PUBLIC ** MONCCUPIED — AGRICULTURE MUSEUM — COMMERCIAL PARK STATE — STAUCTURE — BOTH — WORK IN PROGRESS — EDUCATIONAL PARK STATE — PUBLIC ACQUISITION — ACCESSIBLE — ENTERTAINMENT — RELIGIOUS STRUCTURE — IN PROCESS — YES UNRESTRICTED — GOVERNMENT — TRANSPORTATION — NO — MILITARY — OTHER 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY NAME BERIEV R. and Delores Pruitt Telephone #: 301-972-8832 STREET & NUMBER ROUTE 109 CITY TOWN Beallsville — VICINITY OF MARYLAND 20704 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE REGISTRY OF Deeds Folio #: 721 STREET & NUMBER COUNTY COUNTHOUSE CITY TOWN ROCKVILLE MARYLAND 20850 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS TILE NONE DATE — FEORRAL STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY FRECORDS	1 NAME				
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SURVEY RECOROS	DATE		FEOERAL .	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	
CITY TOWN STATE					
STATE STATE	CITY, TOWN		-	STATE	

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

__UNALTERED
X_ALTERED

XORIGINAL SITE
__MOVED DATE_____

__GOOD

__RUINS

XUNEXPOSED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The oral informant from Big Woods, Florence Hallman, recalls that two houses stood on this property, one belonged to the father, Thomas Johnson, and the other to his son, Elbert. She remembers that the log house was one and a half stories in height with two rooms down and two up. There were no additions to the rectangular block. It was heated by wood burning stoves. The windows held 6 x 6 panes in double hung sashes. The house had no cellar. Near the house was a meat house, hen house, and garden. There was also a hog pen. The family did not have a cow. Thomas's son, Elbert, built a frame house in a style in keeping with the frame dwellings of the turn of the century.

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	S OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW		
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEULUGY-PREHISTORIC	X_COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION	
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE	
1500-1599	AGRICULTURĘ	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	X_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
_1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
<u>¥</u> .1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRYINVENTION	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X_OTHER(SPECIFY) Black History Local History	
SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1875 - 1895	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Florence Hallman recalls that these houses were built before her time -- that is, at least before the turn of the 20th century. Research of deeds has not been able to link the present-day deed with the ones preceding since there was no "being clause." Elbert Johnson was not listed in the grantee/grantor index, and there were too many "Thomas Johnsons" listed as grantees for the research assistant to research in the time available. Thus the date of purchase by the Johnson family is not known at this point, and the date of construction of the houses can only be estimated as the last quarter of the 19th century, before the youth of Florence Hallman.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Montgomery County, County Courthouse, Rockville, Md. Deed: 4750/721.

Oral interview with Florence Hallman, July-August 1978 (not taped) by George McDaniel, Big Woods Community.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA	
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY	
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION	
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES	FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE	COUNTY
O.A.E	COOKIT
STATE	COUNTY
11 FORM PREPARED BY	
NAME / TITLE	
George McDaniel, Surveyor	Karen Sewell, Tamar Hoewing, Wesley Stubbs
organization Sugarloaf Regional Trails	7/79
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
Box 87	926-4510
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Dickerson	Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438